

CLAIMS

1. A method comprising:  
  
heating a polytetrafluoroethylene material to an elevated temperature; and  
maintaining said heating for a time sufficient to substantially reduce a  
particle count character of the polytetra fluoroethylene material.
2. The method of claim 1 further comprising applying a melting temperature to  
a portion of the polytetrafluoroethylene material for welding thereof prior to  
said heating.
3. The method of claim 2 wherein the melting temperature is within about  
15°C of a melting point of the polytetrafluoroethylene material.
4. The method of claim 2 wherein said applying forms a heat affected zone of  
the portion, said heating and said maintaining to affect the heat affected  
zone.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the elevated temperature is above a glass  
transition temperature of the polytrafluoroethylene material.
6. The method of claim 1 wherein the elevated temperature is between about  
130°C and about 260°C.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein the time is between about 20 hours and  
about 100 hours.
8. The method of claim 1 wherein said maintaining occurs in a periodic  
manner comprising:  
  
cooling the polytetraethylene material; and reheating the  
polytetraethylene material.

9. The method of claim 1 wherein said maintaining occurs in a periodic manner comprising:
  - cooling the polytetraethylene material; and
  - reheating the polytetraethylene material.
10. A method comprising heating a polytetrafluoroethylene material to about 228° to substantially, reduce a particle count character thereof.
11. The method of claim 10 wherein said heating is for about 100 hours.
12. A polytetrafluoroethylene material having a particle count character reduced by application of an elevated temperature thereto.
13. The polytetrafluoroethylene material of claim 12 wherein the elevated temperature is between about 130° and about 260°C.
14. The polytetrafluoroethylene material of claim 12 wherein the application of the elevated temperature is for between about 20 hours and about 100 hours.
15. The polytetrafluoroethylene material of claim 12 wherein the elevated temperature is about 228°C and the application is for about 100 hours.
16. The polytetrafluoroethylene material of claim 12 to form a film for contracting a substance.
17. The polytetrafluoroethylene material of claim 16 wherein the substance is one of a liquid and a powder.
18. The polytetrafluoroethylene material of claim 17 wherein the film is for a package to contain the substance.